

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-39: (canceled).

40 (previously presented): A process for producing a methanol, comprising reacting an alcohol in the presence of an alkali metal-type catalyst other than an alkali metal alkoxide, and/or an alkaline earth metal-type catalyst, and a catalyst containing Cu simultaneously with Mn and/or Re to obtain a methanol from carbon monoxide and hydrogen.

41 (currently amended): A process for producing a methanol, comprising reacting carbon monoxide with an alcohol in the presence of an alkali metal-type catalyst other than an alkali metal alkoxide, or a combination of an alkaline earth metal-type catalyst and an alkali metal-type catalyst other than an alkali metal alkoxide to produce a formic ester, wherein a hydrogenolysis catalyst for formic ester other than copper chromite and hydrogen are allowed to be present together in the reaction system to hydrogenate the produced formic ester and thereby obtain a methanol.

42 (canceled).

43 (previously presented): The production process as claimed in claim 40, wherein the alkali metal-type catalyst other than an alkali metal alkoxide and the alkaline earth metal-type catalyst are a catalyst containing an alkali metal salt and a catalyst containing an alkaline earth metal salt, respectively.

44 (previously presented): The production process as claimed in claim 41, wherein the alkali metal-type catalyst other than an alkali metal alkoxide and the alkaline earth metal-type catalyst are a catalyst containing an alkali metal salt and a catalyst containing an alkaline earth metal salt, respectively.

45 (canceled).

46 (previously presented): The process for producing a methanol as claimed in claim 41, wherein the hydrogenolysis catalyst is a solid catalyst and the alkali metal-type catalyst other than an alkali metal alkoxide, or the combination of the alkaline earth metal-type catalyst and the alkali metal-type catalyst other than the alkali metal alkoxide is supported on said solid catalyst and used for the reaction.

47 (previously presented): The process for producing a methanol as claimed in claim 40, further comprising providing a hydrogenolysis catalyst as a solid catalyst and the alkali metal-type catalyst other than an alkali metal alkoxide and/or the alkaline earth metal-type catalyst is supported on said solid catalyst and used for the reaction.

48 (previously presented): The production process as claimed in claim 40, wherein the alcohol is a primary alcohol.

49 (previously presented): The production process as claimed in claim 41, wherein the alcohol is a primary alcohol.

50 (canceled).